

**CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY  
SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**FINAL MEETING NOTES<sup>1</sup>**

**Friday, March 18, 2005**

**Visitors Auditorium, Channel Islands National Park Headquarters  
1901 Spinnaker Drive · Ventura Harbor, CA**

*Note: Audio tape recordings of this Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) meeting are available upon request; contact the SAC Coordinator at 805-884-1464.*

**Attending:**

GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES:

**NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE**

Member Mark Helvey

Alternate Lyle Enriquez

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

(Yvonne Menard)

**US COAST GUARD**

Alternate John Luzader

**US DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

Member Alex Stone

Alternate Walter Schobel

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**

Alternate Kristine Barsky

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

Member Rebecca Roth

**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

Member Dianne Meester [SAC Chair]

**COUNTY OF VENTURA**

Alternate Jack Peveler

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:

**TOURISM**

Member Lauri Baker

Alternate Monica Baker

**Non-CONSUMPTIVE RECREATION**

Member Warren Glaser

Alternate Scott Dunn

**BUSINESS**

Member Bill Spicer

Alternate Bill Agosta

**CONSERVATION**

Member Linda Krop [SAC Vice Chair]

Alternate Greg Helms

**COMMERCIAL FISHING**

Member Chris Hoeflinger

Alternate Jim Marshall

**RESEARCH**

Member Robert Warner Ph.D.

**PUBLIC AT-LARGE-1**

Member Jim Knowlton

Alternate Phyllis Grifman

**PUBLIC AT-LARGE-2**

Member Eric Kett [SAC Secretary]

**CHUMASH COMMUNITY**

Member Ricardo Melendez

Alternate Paulette Cabugos

NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

**Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary**

Member Bill Douros, Sanctuary Superintendent

**Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary**

Chris Mobley, Manager

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<sup>1</sup> Adopted by the Sanctuary Advisory Council on May 20, 2005.

## Absent:

### GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES:

#### **NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE**

Member Russell Galipeau  
Alternate Gary Davis

#### **U. S. COAST GUARD**

Member Lt. J Wade Russell

#### **MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE**

Member Joan Barminski  
Alternate Fred Piltz, Ph.D.

#### **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**

Member Marija Vojkovich

#### **CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY**

Member Brian Baird  
Alternate Leah Akins

#### **CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

Alternate Gary Timm

#### **COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

Alternate Jackie Campbell

#### **COUNTY OF VENTURA**

Member Lyn Krieger

### COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:

#### **RECREATIONAL FISHING**

Member Merit McCrea  
Alternate Steve Roberson

#### **EDUCATION**

Member Craig Taylor  
Alternate Barbara LaCorte

#### **RESEARCH**

Alternate Ph.D. Dan Brumbaugh

#### **PUBLIC AT-LARGE-2**

Alternate Matt Lum

### NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

#### **Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary**

Alternate Sean Morton, Management Plan  
Coordinator

#### **Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary**

Maria Brown, Manager

## Attendance

Sanctuary Advisory Council (Advisory Council) attendance was good, with 17 of 21 voting seats represented. Voting seats absent for the day were Education, Recreational Fishing, Minerals Management Service and California Resources Agency. Public attendance peaked at approximately six individuals.

## Administrative Business and Announcements

Dianne Meester, Acting Chair, presided over the meeting. Dianne introduced new SAC representatives who were in attendance: Bill Spicer (Business member), Bill Agosta (Business alternate), Phyllis Grifman (Public at-large alternate), Lyle Enriquez (NOAA Fisheries alternate), and Kristine Barsky (California Department of Fish and Game alternate). Yvonne Menard participated on behalf of the National Park Service, though neither the member (Russell Galipeau) nor the alternate (Gary Davis) attended.

January 2005 meeting notes were approved and adopted as final subject to the completion of one requested edit: replace "Miller/Hoeflinger proposal" on page 8 with "SAC Commercial Fishing Working Group proposal."

The draft 2004 SAC Annual Report (sent to members in the meeting packet) was adopted as final and will be posted on the SAC web site at [http://www.channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/report\\_doc.html](http://www.channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/report_doc.html).

Chris Mobley spoke briefly about several highlights that appear in the Sanctuary Manager's Report, including:

- The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation is partnering with the Channel Islands Marine Sanctuary Foundation to host a special event in late September or early October 2005 in celebration of the Sanctuary's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. For more information please contact Anna Chouteau, 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Coordinator. [annachouteau@yahoo.com]
- Surveying of the members will take place in March and April to generate and update Sanctuary contact lists.
- A three-day shipwreck reconnaissance expedition was completed at the Channel Islands aboard the *R/V Shearwater* in late February. The expedition included important exercises that help indicate the potential accuracy of monitoring and measuring techniques.
- Sanctuary Education Coordinator Julie Bursek and Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator Shauna Bingham represented CINMS at the Ocean Etiquette workshop in Monterey California on February 24, 2005. The purpose of the workshop was to determine how to best inventory existing watchable wildlife products generated by NOAA agencies, streamline existing watchable wildlife guidelines and consider the need for additional guidelines, and to develop a plan for future product/program development and collaboration.
- In mid-February the Sanctuary partnered with the Marine Mammal Care Center at Fort MacArthur in San Pedro, California to release two rehabilitated northern fur seal pups to a colony near Cuyler Harbor on San Miguel Island.
- On March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2005 Sanctuary staff completed required underway safety training on board the *Shearwater*.

## Council Member Announcements

Rebecca Roth announced on April 14<sup>th</sup> the CCC is hosting a Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) workshop at the Fess Parker Hotel in Santa Barbara. They will attempt to have video available for viewing on the internet. Rebecca also announced the lease suspension requests from Minerals Management Service (MMS) for the thirty-six offshore areas are anticipated to be arriving in April and are anticipated to be available for public comment in June. At its meeting this week the Coastal Commission expressed its concern with energy provision at legislation. From their perspective it will weaken their ability to do coastal protection; in particular the energy bill has two distinct things that stand out. The Coastal Commission will be sending their opposition to members of the California delegation soon.

Jack Peveler announced that the Coastal Commission authorized the boating instructions for the Channel Islands Harbor Safety Center.

Chris Mobley commented that the five million dollars designated by Congress for advertisement of the National Marine Sanctuary Program is for educational purposes, and the advertisements are intended to make the NMSP more visible in the public's eyes. Since the NMSP (National Marine Sanctuary Program) has a robust education and outreach program NOAA is looking to it to help increase public awareness of all NOAA programs. This money is intended to be an endowment that NMSP can put in the bank for long term development and awareness.

Bill Douros, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's Manager, brought copies of the newest edition of *Ecosystem Observations*, which has a new insert, "Simon Says". He encouraged all to look at the insert and noted that there is talk of extending the "SIMON" to all west coast sites, including Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS). Douros also mentioned that they hope to have the Joint Management Plan Review (JMPR) released by the end of the summer.

Linda Krop announced that on Saturday, March 19, 2005 Santa Barbara Channelkeeper will hold a fundraiser at 6:00 p.m. at the Maritime Museum (contact 805-563-3377 for more information). Dr. Riki

Ott from Alaska will be in Santa Barbara on March 24 presenting her latest book, Sound Truth and Corporate Myth, regarding the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill; see Linda Krop for more information. Goleta's Earth Day celebration will take place on April 17, and Santa Barbara's Earth Day event will be held on April 23. On April 21, there will also be a dine out event for Earth Day, which is where the Environmental Defense Center (EDC) will receive proceeds of that evening's revenues at from participating restaurants. Please see Linda Krop for more information. Earth Day is officially on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Kristine Barski announced the redesign of the recreational fishing survey. The goal of the survey is to have real time data on recreational fishing take. There is a website with information on data from this survey, please see her for more information. She also announced that it has been a large task for the Department of Fish and Game to come up with the data.

Chris Hoefflinger commented that the NOAA weather radio has stopped broadcasting wind directions off of the buoys from Point Conception and the West Channel by Harvest of San Nicolas. He made the point that is dangerous not to have those measurements and the only measurements being broadcasted by those buoys are the wave heights on the radio and not on the internet. Chris Mobley and John Luzader offered to place some phone calls regarding the matter.

## **Request for Council Support of the Collaborative Marine Research Program**

This request was initiated during a presentation provided at the January Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting by the Collaborative Marine Research Program and the Channel Islands Marine Sanctuary Foundation. At that meeting the SAC decided to draft a resolution of support for consideration at this March 2005 meeting. The Advisory Council discussed a draft SAC resolution expressing general support for the Collaborative Marine Research Program. After agreeing on a series of edits to the draft, the Advisory Council unanimously adopted a resolution of support. The final resolution will be distributed to the SAC, the steering committee of the Collaborative Marine Research Program, and the staff and board of the Channel Islands Marine Sanctuary Foundation. For more information about the Collaborative Marine Research Program visit [www.cisanctuary.org/cmrip/index.htm](http://www.cisanctuary.org/cmrip/index.htm).

## **Informational Presentation: Red Sea Urchin Fishery at the Channel Islands**

Jim Marshall's presentation on urchin fishing was the first presentation in a fishing educational series for the Sanctuary Advisory Council in 2005. Marshall's presentation (featuring video, slides and discussion) explained how urchin fishing is conducted, who is in the fishery, where it occurs, and how urchins are processed and marketed. Additionally, Marshall discussed the variability of urchin density within the Sanctuary, trends in landings and the number of permits issued, the relationship between urchins and kelp coverage, and programs the industry has developed to support the fishery such as the California Sea Urchin Commission and the Barefoot Ecologist Program. Advisory Council members and the attending public expressed much interest in Marshall's talk. To top it off, Marshall served uni (a popular sea urchin dish served at sushi bars) at the lunch break. Marshall is working on recruiting additional commercial fishermen to present at future SAC meetings. For more information please contact Jim Marshall at [jmarsh@silcom.com](mailto:jmarsh@silcom.com). For a copy of the presentation please contact CINMS staff at 805.966.7107.

## **Public Comment**

Anna Chouteau Channel Islands Marine Sanctuary Foundation Executive Director, announced that she is working with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation and CINMS to put on a gala event this fall in

celebration of the Sanctuary's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. She asked the Advisory Council for help identifying prominent sponsors and auction items for the event's silent auction that will benefit the Sanctuary and two foundations. If anyone is interested in helping with these items or has ideas they would like to contribute please contact Anna at [annachouteau@yahoo.com](mailto:annachouteau@yahoo.com). A date for the event has not yet been set as organizers are waiting to hear back from the invited honorees. Once a date is determined they will notify interested parties.

Michael Murray announced and thanked the Santa Barbara Roasting Company for their donation of the coffee for this SAC meeting as well as the rest of the SAC meetings for this year. Santa Barbara Roasting Company has a new line of coffee named after the Channel Islands and the blends they will be supplying us with are all shade grown, organic and trade free. Thank you.

It was also announced that it is SAC member, Jim Knowlton's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday today, "Happy Birthday Jim!"

### **Research Activities Panel (RAP) Review of Biological Monitoring Programs for the Channel Islands Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)**

Bob Warner gave a report on the RAP's recent meeting. Based on his report the Advisory Council discussed the importance of shallow subtidal habitat monitoring, the need for socioeconomic monitoring, deep subtidal habitat monitoring coordination between remotely operated vehicles (ROV) and submersible surveys, the need for data synthesis and analysis, and the funding required to achieve the necessary research and monitoring programs.

From these conversations the SAC unanimously adopted a series of RAP recommendations concerning how to maintain and improve biological monitoring programs for MPAs within the Sanctuary. These recommendations (which were included in the meeting packet sent to all SAC members prior to the March meeting) will be shared with the National Marine Sanctuary Program and other agencies and organizations involved in MPA monitoring activities at the Channel Islands, and will be attached to the final approved 3/18/05 SAC meeting notes. A request was made for a report on and discussion of the status of socioeconomic monitoring for Channel Islands MPAs at the May 20<sup>th</sup> SAC meeting in Santa Barbara, which Chris Mobley agreed to.

Bob Warner also explained that the RAP feels it is important to make sure that the Sanctuary's aerial monitoring program continues to operate, and that in response to learning that the NOAA aircraft assigned to CINMS may be in jeopardy, the RAP proposed that a SAC letter of support be sent to relevant officials. Bob presented a draft letter (handed out at the meeting), which SAC members discussed and agreed should be edited so that the sentence characterizing the sanctuary's aerial monitoring program as playing an "important role in monitoring the CINMS MPA network by providing data on the magnitude of vessel displacement" is changed so that the word "important" is dropped. As edited, the SAC then unanimously approved that the letter be sent to Dan Basta and contacts at the NOAA Marine and Aviation Operations Center.

### **National Marine Sanctuary Program Regional Report**

Bill Douros, Superintendent of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Acting Director of the National Marine Sanctuary Program's West Coast Region, provided an informational report on regionalization of the National Marine Sanctuary Program. Douros discussed the rationale for creating four small regional offices within the Program, touching on

five reasons. Regionalization will 1) improve the connection between sanctuary sites, 2) to provide better coordination on policy positions, 3) offer a more appropriate administrative level for addressing certain issues that extend beyond a single sanctuary, 4) to improve the National Marine Sanctuary Program's connection with other national agencies that are operating with regional offices, and 5) be consistent with U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and Pew Oceans Commission recommendations concerning the need for regional ecosystem management.

Todd Jacobs then provided an update on two regional projects that he had previously presented to the SAC: a pilot project to fly an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) over the CINMS and conduct various scientific experiments and test surveillance capabilities, and the status of NMSP gaining access to real time data coming from a new Automatic Identification System (AIS) that receives vessel information from large ships (>300 gross registered tons) traversing the Santa Barbara Channel, including the eastern portion of CINMS. The UAV flights are scheduled to take place between April 4-23; more information is available at <http://uav.noaa.gov/mission-plan.html>. Agreements are in place for the construction of an AIS base station on Santa Cruz Island that will assure that AIS data from transponder vessels within and near the CINMS can be received. Progress has been made on development of an interface to the data stream that will be useful for tracking the number, location and type of large vessel traffic activity within CINMS and possibly at other national marine sanctuaries.

## **Updates on Marine Protected Areas**

Chris Mobley commented on the anticipated schedule for the environmental review process, noting that it had not changed and that a fall or end-of-the-year release date for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) is still planned. Staff are busy writing the DEIS and incorporating public and agency comments that were previously received. The SAC and public will have review and comment opportunities when the DEIS is released.

The purpose and content of an agency consultation letter that had recently been sent to several federal, state, local, and congressional bodies (this was sent to SAC members and is also available here: [www.Channelislands.noaa.gov/marinres/enviro\\_review.html](http://www.Channelislands.noaa.gov/marinres/enviro_review.html)) was discussed by Mobley. He explained that because some of the alternatives to be considered for action in the DEIS would involve the sanctuary regulating fishing activities, the CINMS designation document's "scope of authority" language might need to be modified to allow such regulation.

In response to questions (earlier in the agenda) from Chris Hoeflinger, Chris Mobley explained that staff are working to analyze and incorporate a management alternative that was suggested by SAC's Commercial Fishing Working Group, and that the Pacific Fishery Management Council had also requested that this option be included. Mobley explained, however, that it is going to take some time to prepare that analysis and that it would be brought back for review and comment when the DEIS is released.

Later in the agenda, CMDR Jim Sommer from the US Coast Guard, Los Angeles, introduced himself to the Advisory Council and briefly described recent changes in aerial enforcement and patrol activities that are bringing a special focus to the Channel Islands MPAs.

## **Annual SAC Chairs Meeting**

Jim Brye, former Advisory Council Vice-Chair, provided an informational and entertaining presentation on his experience as the CINMS Advisory Council representative from the February 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, 2005 Annual SAC Chairs meeting, held in San Francisco and Point Reyes, California. For a copy of the presentation please contact sanctuary staff.

After highlighting several of the presentations, discussions and case studies provided by other SAC representatives from around the nation, Jim explained that the important “take home” point for him included: that there is a genuine and significant commitment to Sanctuary Advisory Councils being put forth by the National Marine Sanctuary Program (it is not just “window dressing”), there was a pleasing balance of experience and perspectives represented by SAC Chairs, regionalization of the National Marine Sanctuary Program probably makes sense, and Chairs or SAC Executive Committees from the west coast region might benefit from periodically getting together to discuss shared issues, and last that Advisory Councils are fortunate to have capable staff support.

Mike Murray explained that the SAC Chairs have asked all Advisory Councils to consider approving signature by their Chair of a SAC Chairs letter to the new Secretary of Commerce (letter provided to SAC members at the meeting and previously via e-mail). Mike explained that given the logistical challenge of seeking sign-on from eleven sites no text changes are being sought or considered at this point. The letter welcomes the Secretary to the job, introduces the NMSP and Advisory Councils, and asks for attention to the reauthorization of the National Marine Sanctuary Act. After some discussion, a motion was made (by Linda Krop) and seconded (by Eric Kett) which passed unanimously in favor of having the CINMS Advisory Council Chair sign the letter. Copies of the letter are available upon request.

## **Public Comment**

No one from the public expressed an interest in commenting

## **Highlights from the Public Education Forum on Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)**

Sarah MacWilliams provided a recap of highlights from the March 1<sup>st</sup> public information forum on LNG. MacWilliams reported that CINMS and the League of Women Voters of Ventura County co-sponsored the event, which was attended by 300 people and has been widely regarded as a highly successful public educational forum. MacWilliams explained that CINMS decided to partner with the League of Women Voters of Ventura County because of their mutual interest in developing a strictly educational LNG forum with knowledgeable speakers and because like CINMS, they have not taken a position on LNG or the proposed BHP Billiton Cabrillo Port facility.

MacWilliams described some basic aspects of the BHP Billiton “Cabrillo Port” proposal (see also <http://www.cabrilloport.ene.com/default.htm>). She summarized main points made by panelists representing BHP Billiton, U. S. Coast Guard, California State Lands Commission, Environmental Defense Center, and Border Power Plant Working Group. She also mentioned that attendees included California Fish and Game Commissioner Bob Hattoy, and staff from the Office of Senator Dianne Feinstein, the California Coastal Commission, U. S. Navy, Minerals Management Service, U. S. Coast Guard, and National Park Service. For more information on the speakers, their presentations, and the question and answer section of the forum, contact [sarah.macwilliams@noaa.gov](mailto:sarah.macwilliams@noaa.gov) or check the CINMS web site soon at [www.channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/news.html](http://www.channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/news.html).

## **Working Group Reports**

### **Conservation Working Group**

Linda Krop reported that the Conservation Working Group met on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2005 to review the jurisdictional section of a draft CINMS water quality needs assessment report being developed by intern Sarah Polgar and Research Fellow Shiva Polefka. A future SAC presentation on this work, once completed, is envisioned. Linda also mentioned that the Conservation Working Group would like to see CINMS provide a report back to the SAC on the recommendations made last September concerning scientific and policy option research on anthropogenic noise. Chris Mobley and staff agreed that this would happen at the May 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

### **Commercial Fishing Working Group**

The Commercial Fishing Working Group has not met recently; however, Commercial Fishing seat alternate Jim Marshall did discuss his plans and hopes for implementing the SAC fishing education series. He has been in contact with a number of commercial fishermen and is hoping that a representative from each major fishery will participate over the course of the year.

### **Sanctuary Education Team (SET)**

SET did not have a representative present at the meeting and has not met recently, but Mike Murray reported on their behalf that progress has continued on refining a set of sanctuary presentations and plans are being made to resume training speakers.

### **Research Activities Panel**

Bob Warner reported that at the RAP's meeting February 2<sup>nd</sup> the group not only developed recommendations about monitoring programs for Channel Islands MPAs (see above), but also considered other projects that they might take on in the future. Among these are water quality planning, serving as a sounding board for research permit applications received by CINMS, and advising on how CINMS and partners can communicate research and monitoring results to the public. Bob Warner said that he is open to suggestions from SAC members about projects or roles the RAP might take on (contact warner@lifesci.ucsb.edu).

### **Chumash Working Group**

Ricardo Melendez reported that he and Paulette Cabugos have been making contact with several individuals who are interested in joining the Chumash Community Working Group, and that a trip to Santa Cruz Island (which is being planned) will really help to bring the group together.

### **Recreational Fishing Working Group**

There was no report provided by the Recreational Fishing Working Group.

## **Future SAC Meeting Schedule and Agenda Topics**

SAC Chair Dianne Meester let SAC members know that a 2005 SAC Work Plan had been developed by staff that lists the various topics and tasks that SAC members expressed interest in at the January meeting. The SAC Executive Committee would still like to receive the work plan back from SAC members with "high", "medium", or "low" written into the "priority" column. Work plans may be faxed to Mike Murray at 805.568.1582.



## 2005 Tentative\* SAC Meeting Dates:

- **Sunday, April 3, 2005:** SAC Rescheduled Field Trip to Anacapa Island. Please contact [Jacklyn.Kelly@noaa.gov](mailto:Jacklyn.Kelly@noaa.gov) for more information.
- **Friday, May 20, 2005:** SAC Meeting, Santa Barbara
- **Friday, June 17, 2005:** Optional SAC field trip and reception at the Aquarium of the Pacific. More information to come via e-mail.
- **Friday, July 22, 2005:** SAC Meeting, Ventura
- **Friday August 5, 2005:** Optional trip to attend part of Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting in Cambria.
- **Friday, September 23, 2005:** SAC Meeting, Santa Barbara
- **October 10-13 or October 24-28, 2005:** Proposed 2 or 3 day SAC Retreat to Channel Islands (Dates TBD)
- **Friday, November 18, 2005:** SAC Meeting, Ventura

*Meeting notes respectfully submitted by Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary staff:*

*Michael Murray  
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*Sarah MacWilliams  
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*Jacklyn Kelly  
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\* The SAC expressed support for holding at least two evening sessions in 2005 (one in Santa Barbara and one in Ventura). These evening sessions would be on Thursdays preceding two of the above tentative dates. The exact dates have not been selected yet, as the SAC would prefer to meet in the evening when there is an item of elevated public interest on the agenda, such as a public hearing on the Management Plan or the release of a draft environmental impact statement on marine reserves/conservation areas. So, plan on the above listed meeting schedule until future notice about shifting to a preceding Thursday. Staff will provide as much advance notice as possible.